

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 240510

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240510

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 5348 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BEIRUT DHAHARNA  
KUWAIT AMMAN LONDON PARIS ROME BONN THE HAGUE EC BRUSSELS  
TEL AVIV USUN TEHRAN TOKYO 5 DEC

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5348

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, SA

SUBJECT: STAFFDEL TILLMAN DISCUSSES OIL

REF: STATE 230348 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: SAG OFFICIALS SAY SPECIFIC PROGRESS ON ISRAELI  
WITHDRAWAL A PRECONDITION TO LIFTING OR EASING OIL BOYCOTT.

1. IN DISCUSSIONS DECEMBER 3 WITH KING'S SPECIAL  
COUNSELOR, PRINCE NAWWAF, ROYAL COUNSELOR DR. RASHAD  
PHARAON, DEPMIN INFO PRINCE FAHD AL-SUDAIRY, AND PETROMIN  
GOVERNOR DR. ABDUL HADI TAHER, SENATE FON RELATIONS  
COMMITTEE STAFFER DR. SETH TILLMAN EMPHASIZED THAT  
CONTINUATION OF OIL BOYCOTT COULD DEPRESS U.S.

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PAGE 02 STATE 240510

ECONOMY, INCITE U.S. PUBLIC AGAINST ARABS, AND

HAMPER ADMINISTRATION'S ABILITY TO SELL CONGRESS ON AN EVEN-HANDED POLICY TOWARD MIDDLE EAST. TILLMAN SUGGESTED THAT ARAB CAUSE MIGHT BEST BE SERVED IF OIL BOYCOTT LIFTED OR MODERATED WHEN GENEVA PEACE TALKS BEGIN.

2. PRINCE NAWWAF EXPLAINED AT LENGTH THAT SAG HAD ONLY WITH GREAT RELUCTANCE RESORTED TO USE OF OIL WEAPON AGAINST US, AND THEN ONLY WHEN MAGINTUDE OF OUR AID TO ISRAELIS LEFT IT NO CHOICE. SAG LOOKED FORWARD TO RESUMING PRODUCTION AT PREVIOUS LEVELS AND HIGHER AS SOON AS POLITICAL SITUATION PERMITTED. IN MEANTIME, HOWEVER, SAG HAD TO THINK OF PUBLIC OPINION IN ARAB WORLD, AND EVEN AT HOME. PRINCE BELIEVED THAT INCONVENIENCE AND DISLOCATIONS EXPERIENCED BY EUROPEANS WAS A FACTOR USG COULD ADDUCE IN SEEKING TO RALLY PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR EARLY AND JUST SETTLEMENT.

3. TILLMAN TOLD PRINCE REACTION MIGHT WELL GO THE OTHER WAY; ASKED WHAT SIGNS OF ACTION OR PROGRESS DID SAG NEED TO EASE UP ON OIL WEAPON OR LIFT IT ALTOGETHER? PRINCE REPLIED IF IDF WITHDREW TO EAST BANK OF CANAL, THAT WOULD BE GOOD STEP; PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI WOULD BE EVEN BETTER, ALTHOUGH SAG DID NOT EXPECT IMMEDIATE AND TOTAL WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI.

4. DR. PHARAON SUBSEQUENTLY EXPANDED ON THIS POINT TO SAY THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF PHASED TIMETABLE FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI WOULD BE REGARDED AS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT. WITHDRAWAL NEED NOT BE ACCOMPLISHED OVERNIGHT, BUT IF ISRAELIS WERE SINCERE IT COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN THREE MONTHS OR LESS. PHARAON INDICATED THAT SAUDI SKEPTICISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR PEACE TALKS WAXING BECAUSE MORE THAN THREE WEEKS HAVE PASSED SINCE SECRETARY KISSINGER SUPPOSEDLY OBTAINED ISRAELI AGREEMENT TO WITHDRAW TO OCTOBER 22 LINES AND IDF STILL IN PLACE.

5. DR. PHARAON WAS NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO ARGUMENT THAT ARABS SHOULD BE FOREBEARING AND REASONABLE TO WIN BATTLE FOR US PUBLIC OPINION AND TO FREE OUR HANDS AT CONFERENCE TABLE;  
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PAGE 03 STATE 240510

RIGHT OF ARAB CAUSE TO HIM WAS AS SELF-EVIDENT QUOTE AS SUN IN SKY UNQUOTE. ALL US NEEDED TO DO, HE SAID, TO END BOYCOTT AND NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ARABS WAS COMPEL ISRAEL TO IMPLEMENT UN RESOLUTIONS THAT ENJOYED ALMOST UNIVERSAL SUPPORT.  
AKINS  
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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